

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO CHARLES LACINA

140 HUGES STREET

SWOYERSVILLE PA DELIVER IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS STATE 198376

FOL MSG RECEIVED FM AMCONSUL HONG KONG DTD 05 AUG 78

QUOTE: UNCLAS HONG KONG 10432

A. IT IS WITH PROFOUND REGRET THAT I INFORM YOU OF THE DEATH OF
THOMAS M. LACINA. MR. ROBERT HAMEL, GENERAL
MANAGER OF THE SHERATON HONG KONG HOTEL INFORMED THE AMERICAN
CONSULATE GENERAL, HONG KONG ON AUGUST 5 OF HIS DEATH
BY UNKNOWN CAUSES ON AUGUST 4 IN HIS ROOM AT THE HOTEL.

B. AT THIS TIME IT IS NOT KNOWN IF THE HONG KONG AUTHORITIES CON-
CERNED WILL REQUIRE AN AUTOPSY TO ESTABLISH CAUSE OF DEATH.
TO FACILITATE PLANNING, SUGGEST YOU GIVE PERMISSION TO PERFORM
AUTOPSY.

C. THE CONSULATE GENERAL WILL TAKE POSSESSION OF HIS PERSONAL
EFFECTS AND WILL WRITE TO YOU CONCERNING THEIR DISPOSITION.

D. REGRETFULLY, I MUST DRAW YOUR ATTENTION TO THE NEED TO MAKE
URGENT ARRANGEMENTS. LOCAL LAW REQUIRES BURIAL OR THAT ARRANGEMENTS
BE MADE FOR SHIPMENT OF REMAINS AS SOON AS PRACTICABLE. WE
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WOULD LIKE TO KNOW AS SOON AS POSSIBLE WHETHER OR NOT YOU
WISH TO HAVE MR. LACINA REMAINS RETURN TO THE UNITED STATES.
IF SO, PREPARATION AND AIR SHIPMENT TO NEW YORK WILL COST \$2800.
CREMATION AND SHIPMENT REMAINS TO U.S. WILL COST \$200. IF
LOCAL BURIAL IS DESIRED, THE COST IS \$2000. THE COST OF CREMATION
AND LOCAL BURIAL IS \$500. ALL COSTS QUOTED ARE APPROXIMATE.

E. AFTER YOU HAVE MADE YOUR DECISION, PLEASE TAKE THE FOLLOWING ACTIONS: (A) TELEGRAPH INSTRUCTIONS PROMPTLY AND DIRECTLY TO AMERICAN CONSULATE GENERAL, HONG KONG AND INCLUDE THE NAME OF THE DECEASED IN YOUR MESSAGE. STATE WHETHER REQUIRED FUNDS ARE BEING TELEGRAPHED AND BY WHAT MEANS. INCLUDE NAME AND ADDRESS OF U.S. FUNERAL HOME YOU SELECT IF SHIPMENT DESIRED. (B) TELEPRAPH REQUIRED FUNDS SEPARATELY AND PROMPTLY THROUGH CHASE MANHATTAN BANK HEAD OFFICE HONG KONG, PAYABLE TO AMERICAN CONSULATE GENERAL, ATTENTION, CONSUL JOHN COFFEY. (C) IF YOU ARE HAVING THE REMAINS SHIPPED TO THE U.S., YOU MAY WISH TO HAVE THE U.S. FUNERAL HOME YOU SELECT MAKE THESE ARRANGEMENTS FOR YOU.

F. UPON RECEIPT OF THE REQUIRED FUNDS YOUR INSTRUCTIONS WILL BE CARRIED OUT AS PROMPTLY AS CIRCUMSTANCES PERMIT. WE ESTIMATE APPROXIMATELY 10 DAYS WILL BE REQUIRED FOLLOWING RECEIPT OF FUNDS TO CARRY OUT YOUR INSTRUCTIONS IF REMAINS ARE TO BE SHIPPED. UPON COMPLETION OF ALL FORMALITIES, A FOREIGN SERVICE REPORT OF DEATH WILL BE PREPARED BY THIS OFFICE AND SENT TO YOU.

G. IF NECESSARY, YOU MAY CONTACT THE CONSULAR SECTION OF THE CONSULATE

GENERAL BY TELEPHONING 239011, HONG KONG. PLEASE ASK TO SPEAK

WITH CONSUL JOHN COFFEY. BE ASSURED OF MY DEEPEST SYMPATHY
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IN YOUR BREAVEMENT.
AMCONSUL HONG KONG
SHOESMITH UNQUOTE CHRISTOPHER

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